SPRING 2006

The Mohegan Way

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The Mohegan Tribe: Leading the Way for Clean Alternative Energy Sources

The Mohegan Tribe has always been deeply committed to respecting and protecting the environment. When constructing the Mohegan Sun Casino, the Tribe utilized a variety of construction techniques to create a more energy efficient and environmentally friendly facility.

The innovative, "clean" technologies featured at the Mohegan Reservation include stationary fuel cells, photovoltaic electric generation, ground source heat pumps, hotel energy demand reduction, materials recycling and reuse, alternate vehicle fuel use, vehicle emission control through retrofitting, and many other technologies.

In addition, the Tribe built and created a special Mohegan Energy, Environment, Economics, and Education Center to provide scientists, engineers, environmental advocates, and others with the opportunity to participate in pollution prevention seminars, demonstrations, and review case study information on the Mohegan Reservation system's approach to pollution minimization.

This spring, working with the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund and the hydrogen technology group of Proton Energy Systems, a subsidiary of

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2005 Ford Escape, all-wheel drive SUV Hybrid

Exploring Mohegan Tribal Heritage

Extraordinary opportunities exist to learn more about the Mohegan Tribe and its rich culture and heritage. Whether touring the region or visiting the Mohegan Tribe's website, exploring Mohegan traditions has never been easier.

Visitors can start with an on line tutorial at www.mohegan.nsn.us. In addition, important Tribal sites can be found throughout Southeastern Connecticut:

Royal Mohegan Burial Ground
This original and sacred land was the burial ground for Uncas and his descendants. The Tribe was deeded the land through an agreement Uncas made in 1659. As part of the agreement, the European settlers were deeded the adjacent land that was to become the city of Norwich.

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Letter From the Chairman

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Mohegan Tribe and the Mohegan Tribal Council, I want to wish you a happy and healthy spring.

In this issue of The Mohegan Way *you will find news updates on some of our activities and additional information about our dedication to building a better future and our ongoing commitment to being good friends and good neighbors.*

As Tribal Leaders, we will continue to work faithfully to protect and restore our culture, while seeking to develop economic opportunities, not only for our members, but for all the people of our region.

As always, we take on these tasks with a fundamental respect for protecting our environment and working to develop a healthier and better future for all.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Chairman Bruce "Two Dogs" Bozsum
on behalf of the entire Mohegan Tribal Council

Mohegan Sun Leads the Way in Slot Contributions to the State

The Mohegan Tribe continues to be the single largest source of revenue for the state of Connecticut (other than transfers from the federal government).

In April 2006, the Mohegan Sun's monthly contribution to the state of Connecticut's Mohegan-Pequot Slot Fund was $19.1 million dollars. With this contribution, the Mohegan Tribe has provided the state with over $185 million so far this fiscal year, which is about $15 million more than the state has received from Foxwoods.

The Mohegan-Pequot Fund was created as a result of the compacts between the state of Connecticut and the two Tribal nations. This agreement created a historic revenue sharing system in which 25% of all slots revenue from the two Native American casinos is transferred to Connecticut's state government.

Since the compact's inception, the state has received about $3.8 billion dollars from the two Tribes. This year, a total of approximately $425 million will go to the state to help fund vital services at the state and municipal level.

During the recently completed legislative session, the General Assembly revised the state's funding formula to provide communities surrounding the two casinos to receive a larger share of the revenues paid out by the Fund. The new law guarantees that at least $1.6 million of the slot revenue collected by the state be given to towns in Southeastern Connecticut and any "distressed" municipalities in the 21-town region. The five "host" towns closest to the casinos will receive a direct grant of $750,000 each. In addition, since the Mohegan Sun was opened, the Mohegan Tribe has always provided the town of Montville with a special annual grant of $500,000 to help fund local services.

"The result of the compact between the Mohegan Tribe and the state of Connecticut serves as a lasting reminder that our Tribe has not only become a major engine of economic growth, providing jobs and economic opportunity for the people of our region, but that the Mohegan Sun's success has also translated into direct benefits to all of Connecticut's taxpayers," said Bruce "Two Dogs" Bozsum, Chairman of the Mohegan Tribal Council.

Mohegan Tribal Council

Front row (left to right):
Roberta Harris-Payne: Corresponding Secretary
Bruce "Two Dogs" Bozsum: Chairman
Marilynn "Lynn" Malerba: Vice Chairwoman
Allison D. Johnson: Recording Secretary
Back row (left to right):
William Quidgeon, Jr.: Treasurer
Mark W. Hamilton: Councilor
"Matahga" Mark F. Brown: Councilor
Ralph James Gessner, Jr.: Councilor
Roland J. Harris: Councilor

Mohegan Tribal Elders

Front row (left to right):
Mary Rubino: Elder and Justice
John Henry Clark: Chairman and Chief Justice
Marie Pineault: Elder and Justice
Back row (left to right):
Austin Fish, Jr.: Treasurer and Justice
William "Dancing Shadow" Andrews: Elder and Justice
Joseph "Wolf Who Walks Alone" Gray: Vice Chairman and Justice
Robert (Bob) Francis Soper: Secretary and Justice

Leading the Way for Clean Alternative Energy Sources . . .

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Wallingford, Connecticut-based Distributed Energy Systems Corporation, the Mohegan Tribe upgraded to an advanced fuel cell technology system that will provide power for the Mohegan Energy, Environment, Economics, and Education Center.

"From the beginning of recorded time, the Mohegan Tribe has honored and respected our earth," said Bruce "Two Dogs" Bozsum, Chairman of the Mohegan Tribal Council. "In this modern era, we are just as committed to protecting our environment. Promoting the use of alternative energy such as fuel cells will not only allow us all to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, but it will also allow us to do a better job of protecting our earth and fulfilling our obligation to future generations."

The Mohegan Tribe will continue to work closely with the state of Connecticut and other Connecticut companies to develop more environmentally safe and economical sound energy sources.

Exploring the Heritage . . . *continued from page 1*

A series of desecrations reduced the Indian-controlled portion to an eighth of an acre. The worst desecration was recorded in 1842 by Mohegan Medicine Woman Emma Baker.

The Tribe has repurchased land that made up much of the original burial grounds and is presently moving forward with a comprehensive program to permanently protect this sacred land and those buried there.

Fort Hill
Some of the original stones from one of Uncas' forts can still be found at Fort Hill. Mohegan traditions and stories reveal that these stones have always played an important role in protecting the Tribe and its people. Fort Hill is now the site of our beautiful senior housing complex where many of our Tribe's elders reside.

Cochegan Rock
The largest freestanding boulder in New England, Cochegan Rock is known as the place where Sachem Uncas met with his council in the 1600s. There, they made the difficult and strategic decision that would ultimately preserve the Tribe through the struggle with the exploding European population.

The Tribe decided to "break arrows," and made an alliance with the "pale strangers." By sacrificing some of its dwindling independence, the Tribe preserved enough autonomy to maintain its identity.

Fort Shantok
Like many ancient sites, Shantok is layered with history. As a Mohegan burial ground, it is sacred for its role as the place the buried return to the Spirit Land. It is also on the U.S. National Register and a National Historic Landmark. The site once included the rock where Uncas first landed his dugout canoe and stood as a reminder of the first steps the Tribe took into its new home. The Tribe's first village has long served as home, burial ground, and celebration site. The building of a railroad destroyed the rock and the area was taken from the Tribe in 1926, although it remained an important gathering place.

Mohegan Church
In 1827, the U.S. government mandated the forced relocation to the West of all "uncivilized" and "un-Christiainized" Indians. To protect the Tribe from these laws, three generations of Mohegan women, Lucy Occum Tantaquidgeon, her daughter Lucy Tantaquidgeon Teecomwas and her granddaughter Cynthia Teecomwas Hoscott, established the Mohegan Church. Ironically it served simultaneously as proof that the Mohegans were "Christianized and civilized" while still remaining an important symbol of Tribal sovereignty.

The continuous ownership of the church helped the Tribe gain federal recognition in 1994. Today, it is the Tribe's social and political center as well as a religious gathering place.

To arrange a visit to the Mohegan Church exhibit, contact museum@moheganmail.com or phone 860-862-6144.

Tantaquidgeon Museum
The Tantaquidgeon Museum is the oldest Native American owned and operated Indian museum in America. The museum has stood to embody the ideals of Tribal resistance and survival. Chief Harold Tantaquidgeon, John Tantaquidgeon and Gladys Tantaquidgeon founded and built the museum in 1931, with the idea that "It's harder to hate someone you know a lot about." Harold and John, blind in one eye and on crutches, built the museum themselves. Gladys contributed artifacts obtained in her travels all over the country.

Gladys Tantaquidgeon

Mohegans Construct Water Pipeline for Regional Water-Sharing Project

The upgrade to Southeastern Connecticut's water supply system took a significant step forward this April when construction was completed on a $1 million, 1,500-foot pipeline underneath the Thames River.

The new pipeline, along with new water tanks in Ledyard and Waterford, will increase water pressure and provide backup water systems to neighboring municipalities. The entire $12 million regional water system project is seen as an example of how communities can solve regional problems by working together.

As part of the joint agreement between the Mohegan Tribe and the communities in the region, the Tribe is providing approximately $7 million in up-front resources to develop the project, allowing the participating municipalities additional time to identify and acquire their share of the dollars necessary to fund the project.

"For the past five years the Mohegan Tribe has worked with local municipalities to develop a solution to meet the region's demand for safe, clean drinking water," said Bruce "Two Dogs" Bozsum, Chairman of the Mohegan Tribal Council. "This project is yet another great example of what can be achieved when neighbors work together. As a result of our cooperative efforts, our communities will now have access to the water supplies they need."

***The Mohegan Way*: Published by the Mohegan Tribal Council. For further information, contact: mweditor@moheganmail.com**

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